

# Anti- Smoking Policy

**Abbotsholme School operate a non-smoking school site. It is against the law to purchase cigarettes under the age of eighteen. It is contrary to the Abbotsholme ethos to smoke and/or to use any form of electronic cigarette.**

It is our intention to: discourage pupils from taking up smoking; make it difficult for pupils to smoke; and to provide expert medical advice and support for those who do smoke to give it up. There is also a disciplinary deterrent.

## Outline

The anti-smoking procedure involves:

- Guidance: Pupils receive preventative health education about the risks from smoking, including within PSHCE lessons, to deter pupils from taking up smoking.
- Support: Pupils are encouraged and supported to give up smoking. Pupils are informed that confidential advice is available from the School Health Centre, about giving up.
- Disciplinary sanctions.

**Smoking within a building may directly affect the lives of others and is treated as a very serious offence. Punishment will involve an automatic suspension and possible expulsion from Abbotsholme. Pupils smoking in the company of pupils significantly younger than themselves, or found supplying cigarettes to others, are likely to be punished more severely.**

## General Procedure

### Level One

If a pupil is suspected of smoking or is caught smoking for the first time, the following will result:

- The pupil will be interviewed by the Head of School (day pupils and boarders).
- Parents will be informed, by letter, e-mail or telephone call.
- The Head of School will inform the Health Centre and the Deputy Head.
- The pupil will be warned of the dangers, reminded of the school policy, and advised to seek advice from the Health Centre within three days.
- The Health Centre staff will then inform the Head of School and Deputy Head when a pupil has attended.

### Level Two

If a pupil is caught smoking again, or there is strong evidence to suggest that they have been smoking again, the matter will be reported to the Head of School and the following steps will be taken:

- The Head of School will speak to the Health Centre and notify the Deputy Head.

- The pupil will be punished by the Head of School. If a pupil is on a programme of support, the pupil might not be disciplined; however, they may be punished for breaking other school rules e.g. being in an area that is out of bounds, leaving a boarding house without permission etc.
- The Head of School will send a letter to parents informing them of the incident and outlining the possible punishments for being caught smoking again.

### **Level Three**

If a pupil is caught smoking on further occasions, or if the pupil is be considered by the Health Centre to be not responding to support and guidance, the matter will be managed by the Deputy Head and the following steps will be taken:

- Parents will be notified by letter with an explanation that further instances will be punishable by suspension.
- Parents will be asked to come into school to discuss the situation and help work out a way forward.
- The pupil will receive a Head's extended detention and, in the case of boarders, a period of house gating.
- Persistent offending may result in expulsion.

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